

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2074**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bradford**

February 23, 2012

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An act to add Section 12300.15 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to in-home supportive services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2074, as introduced, Bradford. In-Home Supportive Services program: telehealth training program.

Existing law provides for the county-administered In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program, under which qualified aged, blind, and disabled persons are provided with services in order to permit them to remain in their own homes and avoid institutionalization. Existing law authorizes services to be provided under the IHSS program either through the employment of individual providers, a contract between the county and an entity for the provision of services, the creation by the county of a public authority, or a contract between the county and a nonprofit consortium. Existing law requires the department, in consultation with counties, to develop a standardized curriculum, training materials, and work aids, and operate an ongoing statewide training program, on specified matters related to the provision of in-home supportive services.

This bill would require the department to develop a training program, as specified, to train IHSS providers on the utilization of telehealth in home-based care.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 12300.15 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

12300.15. (a) For purposes of this section, “telehealth” has the meaning set forth in subparagraph (6) of subdivision (a) of Section 2290.5 of the Business and Professions Code.

(b) The department shall develop a training program, which includes a standardized curriculum and training materials, to train in-home supportive services (IHSS) providers on the utilization of telehealth, as described in subdivision (a), in home-based care.

(c) The training program shall instruct IHSS providers in areas relating to telehealth, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) The use of relevant Internet tools and resources, and the development of a technical understanding of the Internet and of relevant applications on the Internet.

(2) Patient safety and clinical risk management, including the prevention and control of risk to patients and the use of computerized health care records.

(3) Standard practices regarding patient data within a health information system, including the handling of confidential information and personal data, and other responsibilities and prohibitions relating to patient data.

(4) The use of devices commonly used in telehealth, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) Blood pressure devices.

(B) Blood glucose devices.

(C) Electrocardiogram devices.

(D) Weight scales.

(E) Pulse oximetry devices.

(F) Spirometry devices.

(G) Portable sonogram devices.

(H) Stethoscopes.

(e) The department shall develop a program pursuant to this section by January 1, 2014.

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